

Arizona Apprenticeship Advisory Committee (AAAC)

Virtual via Google Meet - <https://meet.google.com/iwc-mwxq-dnc>

Call in number: 414-909-6188

PIN: 931 959 009#

Public Meeting

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

8:00 am

Meeting Minutes

(Draft manuscript. Subject to approval at the next meeting.)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT (Virtually)

Mr. Dennis Anthony, Chairman (Arizona Public Service)

Ms. Linda Vedo (Central Arizona Project Apprenticeship Coordinator)

Mr. Frank Grijalva (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - IBEW International)

Ms. Melissa Huffman (City of Phoenix)

Ms. Denise Kingman (Pima Community College)

Mr. Paul Cozza (TechOne IT)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Charles Hankins (Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station)

Ms. Karen King (Training Director, Tucson Electrical JATC)

Mr. Tom Dunn (Arizona Builders Alliance)

Mr. Rob Stenson (City of Phoenix ARIZONA@WORK)

Ms. Cindy Gutierrez (Arizona Department of Education Career and Technical Education)

Vacancy (Arizona Industrial Commission)

STAFF PRESENT for Department of Economic Security/Registration Agency

William (Willie) Higgins, Arizona Apprenticeship Office (State Apprenticeship Program Lead)

Joann Bueno, Arizona Apprenticeship Office (Apprenticeship Training Representative)

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Anthony called the meeting to order at 8:12 am.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Anthony welcomed all committee members and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

ACCEPTANCE OF APRIL 6, 2021 MINUTES

Mr. Anthony requested a motion to accept the AAAC meeting minutes of April 6, 2021. Motion was moved by Frank Grijalva and seconded by Linda Vedo. Motion to accept minutes was unanimously approved by those present as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Willie Higgins: The Arizona Apprenticeship Office is now reduced to a staff of three: a State Program Lead, a Project Coordinator, and an Apprenticeship Training Representative (ATR) due to the recent departure of 2 ATRs. Vacancies will be posted as soon as the revamp of the required KSA's for that role

and revision of the title, from “Apprenticeship Training Representative” to “Registered Apprenticeship Representative”, is completed. The Committee will be informed when the vacancies are posted.

Mr. Higgins touched on the pending status of the National Apprenticeship Act of 2021. The Bill for this Act is pending US Senate approval before the final steps are implemented.

Mr. Higgins informed the Committee of the reactivation of the Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (ACA) on the national level. Names have been put forward from various organizations from Arizona. The Committee will be updated of new developments as it progresses.

Mr. Higgins expressed his high regard for distinguished colleagues from Maricopa County, particularly Ms. Deb Furlong. Ms. Furlong and her team are doing exceptional work in servicing apprentices with WIOA funding with ARIZONA@WORK and the County. Maricopa County leads the nation in this respect and was recently published on the DOL’s apprenticeship website.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on CFR 29:29 Part A and CFR 29:30: Willie Higgins: Documents are put on-hold by the Department of Labor.

Grants TEGL 15-19 and TEGL 17-18: Willie Higgins: Quarterly and Annual Reports for these grants are currently being prepared for submission.

Procedure for replacing missing certifications: Willie Higgins: No final decision has been made regarding this process. Mr. Higgins informed the Committee that the Arizona Apprenticeship Office can provide replacements of the wallet cards, however, cannot furnish replacements of State certificates whose completion dates precede the tenure of the incumbent Secretary of State and the Governor.

Executive Orders on AAAC and Members: Willie Higgins: This topic is tabled, to be discussed at the next meeting. A copy of the Executive Order 2013-01 to be furnished to Mr. Paul Cozza, for his reference.

STATUS REPORT

Chairman’s Report:

Mr. Dennis Anthony (Arizona Public Service) – Onboarding of new pre-apprentices are under way.

APPRENTICESHIP ACTIVITY REPORT:

Willie Higgins: 249 currently registered programs and 4,152 registered apprentices, 7.8% of participants are Veterans and 8% are Female participants, the highest ever been recorded. New occupations outside of the Construction Industry are being added to increase participation from these groups. There is particular focus given on Healthcare, Cyber Security, and Information Technology.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Ms. Linda Vedo (Central Arizona Project) – There are currently 6 apprentices. They are anticipating the addition of 2 new apprentices in September or October.

Denise Kingman (Pima Community College) – There are currently 6 apprentices. There are currently 11 occupations registered and are currently working with several employers in finalizing their work processes schedules. Aside from their own registered program, they actively offer RTI assistance for other programs or prospective sponsors to be able to set up their own. Pima Community College is also developing Employer manuals which will soon be submitted to the Apprenticeship Office for approval.

Ms. Melissa Huffman (City of Phoenix) – There are currently 7 apprentices – 2 Gardeners, 2 Electricians and 3 Solid Waste Equipment Operators.

Mr. Paul Cozza (TechOne IT) – There are currently 11 Application Developer / Software Engineer apprentices and are getting ready to onboard 2 more apprentices. They are anticipating approval of a proposal for the enrollment of 12 -17 more apprentices in the coming months.

Mr. Frank Grijalva (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - IBEW International) – Among the 3 Locals, there are about 500 apprentices at different stages in the program. It has been busy for the Utilities industry as they anticipate significant growth in Phoenix, Tucson and Albuquerque, NM in the coming year.

OUTSTANDING AWARDS CEREMONY

Linda Vedo: The Executive Board met on July 13, 2021 to discuss using Eventbrite rather than PayPal in facilitating ticket purchases and reservations for the event. The group decided to continue using PayPal. Ms. Karen King was tasked to transmit the information to the Arizona Apprenticeship Office to begin dissemination of the information and invitation distribution.

The event is scheduled for November 20, 2021 at The Wigwam Resort in Phoenix. There is concern over inability to attend the event due to differing Covid-19 restrictions regarding public gatherings among several organizations. This may significantly affect attendance for the event.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Anthony asked the public to introduce themselves. There were no additional comments from the Public.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be on October 13, 2021. Same format. (Virtual) Committee members will be notified with an invitation to the next meeting to include an agenda for the meeting and draft minutes of this meeting. Mr. Higgins informed the group that AAAC future meetings are scheduled quarterly on the second Wednesday of that month (January, April, June, and October) from 8am – 10am. This may change should the Committee decide on having in-person meetings again.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to close was made by Ms. Vedo and seconded by Ms. Huffman. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 am.